MR. E. G. SALTER: The question of Government taking action under the powers vested under the Motor Vehicles Act is under consideration.

Charge per mile fixed by the Transport Department.

115. ***MR. K. R. NARAYANAN** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the charge fixed per mile for the Express Bus?

MR. E. G. SALTER: 1 Ch. per mile (approximately.)

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): The distance between Alwaye and Kothamangalam is 22 miles and the rate is Re. 1-14-0. According to the answer, the rate should be only Chs. 22. But now the charge is double that. May I know the reason for the same?

MR. E. G. SALTER: The express fares are purposely arranged to discourage intermediate traffic.

Through tickets issued by the Transport Department.

116. ***MR. K. R. NARAYANAN:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether through tickets are issued for the ordinary bus in the Trivandrum-Kottayam line; and if not, the reason thereof?

MR. E. G. SALTER: No. There is no through service between Trivandrum and Kottayam by the ordinary bus.

Medical aid in Todupuzha.

117. ***MR. P. M. VARGHESE** (*Minachil* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of their declared policy that medical aid will be supplied within every six miles radius; and

(*b*) whether that policy has been ever applied in Todupuzha taluk which is the most malarial in the State?

DR. S. JOHN: (*a*) No such policy has been declared.

(*b*) This question does not therefore arise.

Parur Government Hospital.

118. ***MR. E. K. MADHAVAN** (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of sanctioned beds in the Government Hospital, Parur and the number of inpatients at present accommodated in the hospital?

DR. S. JOHN:

Number of beds	...	46
Number of inpatients now accommodated	...	80

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: May I know how this increasing number of persons is accommodated in the hospital?

DR. S. JOHN: They are put on the floor

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MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: Are they given sufficient clothing and beds?

DR. S. JOHN: Certainly.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Does the honourable member think that allowing the patients to lie on the floor is good for them?

DR. S. JOHN: There is no other way of accommodating them.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Does not the honourable member think that this is not the proper way of accommodating them?

DR. S. JOHN: When the new system of having three or four first class hospitals and keeping all the others as minor feeding hospitals, comes into force this question will not arise.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Does the honourable member mean thereby that the patients will have to suffer in the meantime?

PRESIDENT: That is undoubtedly a grievance. In the General Hospital there were 500 patients while there were only 300 beds available. Therefore 200 of them had to remain on the ground. The result was that the Government ordered that nobody should be accommodated on the floor and the extra patients were sent to the Peroorkada Hospital. Government thought it better not to admit these patients rather than admit them under indifferent conditions. That will be the policy of Government in the future.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: Are the patients protected from the inclemency of weather?

DR. S. JOHN: Yes, Sir.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: As far as I know, they are not protected.

PRESIDENT: That statement is questioned.

In-patients in the Parur District Hospital.

119. ***MR. P. O. THOMAS** (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of in-patients admitted into the Parur Hospital in 1109 and 1118?

DR. S. JOHN:

Year.	*In-patients.*
1109	1391
1118	2062

Diet in Parur District Hospital.

120. ***MR. P. O. THOMAS**: Will the Government be pleased to state the allotment for diet in the Parur District Hospital for the years 1109 and 1118?

DR. S. JOHN:

	Rs.
1109	700
1118	1595

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